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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SECRET

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECRET

25X1
25X1
25X1 COUNTRY Bulgaria
25X1
25X1 SUBJECT The Konski Dol Lead and Zinc Mine
25X1 in the Rhodope Basin
25X1
25X1 DATE OF INFO.
25X1
25X1 PLACE ACQUIRED Turkey, Istanbul (June-August 1953)

REPORT
DATE DISTR. 30 October 1953
NO. OF PAGES 6
REQUIREMENT NO.
REFERENCES

1. The Konski Dol Lead and Zinc Mine is located some four or five kilometers south of Madan (N 41-39, E 24-57), on the slopes of a hill which is west of a dry stream. The mine is divided into three districts, each of which contains a shaft identified as the 1, 2, and 3 "Uchastuk". The 3 Uchastuk is the nearest to Madan, the 2 Uchastuk is some 500 meters south of the 3 Uchastuk, and the 1 Uchastuk is also south of the 2 Uchastuk, but informant could not pinpoint its location.
2. There is only one vertical shaft at the 3 Uchastuk. It is six meters by four meters in size and 250 meters deep. At every 50 meters, there is a horizontal gallery which is about 150 meters long, 1.8 meters high, two meters wide at the base, and 1.7 meters wide at the top. Just over the vertical shaft is a building eight meters square containing the machinery which operates the two elevators in the shaft. Beside the horizontal mine entrance is a prefabricated wooden building 15 by five meters in size; one part of it is used as an equipment and clothing depot, and the other part contains the timekeeper's office. About 25-30 meters from this building is a prefabricated shed eight by four meters in size which is used as a barracks for Militiamen assigned to the mine. There are about 500 wooden prefabricated buildings and brick houses along both sides of a stream which are used as dormitories for all kinds of employees at the mine. (For a sketch showing these installations of 3 Uchastuk, see Appendix, pages 5 and 6.)

25X1 Personnel

3. [redacted] the following administrative personnel of the Konski Dol Lead and Zinc Mines:

SECRET

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC									
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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

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25X1

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT NO.		25X1
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1

1. The Konski Dol Lead and Zinc Mine is located some four or five kilometers south of Madan (N 41-30, E 24-57), on the slopes of a hill which is west of a dry stream. The mine is divided into three districts, each of which contains a shaft identified as the 1, 2, and 3 "Uchastuk". The 3 Uchastuk is the nearest to Madan, the 2 Uchastuk is some 500 meters south of the 3 Uchastuk, and the 1 Uchastuk is also south of the 2 Uchastuk, but informant could not pinpoint its location.
2. There is only one vertical shaft at the 3 Uchastuk. It is six meters by four meters in size and 250 meters deep. At every 50 meters, there is a horizontal gallery which is about 150 meters long, 1.8 meters high, two meters wide at the base, and 1.7 meters wide at the top. Just over the vertical shaft is a building eight meters square containing the machinery which operates the two elevators in the shaft. Beside the horizontal mine entrance is a prefabricated wooden building 15 by five meters in size; one part of it is used as an equipment and clothing depot, and the other part contains the timekeeper's office. About 25-30 meters from this building is a prefabricated shed eight by four meters in size which is used as a barracks for Militiamen assigned to the mine. There are about 500 wooden prefabricated buildings and brick houses along both sides of a stream which are used as dormitories for all kinds of employees at the mine. (For a sketch showing these installations of 3 Uchastuk, see Appendix, pages 5 and 6.)

Personnel

25X13. following administrative personnel of the Konski Dol Lead and Zinc Mines:

SECRET

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC					
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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

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- 25X1 a. Kiro (lmu), manager of the mine; resides at the "Borieva" Mine area; visited
 25X1 the 3 Uchastuk only twice [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted]
- 25X1 b. Junior Lieutenant Slavcho (lmu), director of the 3 Uchastuk [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted]
- 25X1 c. Redzhep Katsarov, supervisor of the first shift at the 3 Uchastuk; a Pomak
 25X1 from Zlatograd Okoliya [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted]
- 25X1 d. Khayri (lmu), supervisor of the second shift at the 3 Uchastuk; a Pomak from
 25X1 Smolyan Okoliya [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted]
- 25X1 e. Trudovak Sergeant (Serzhant) (unidentified), supervisor of the third shift
 25X1 at the 3 Uchastuk [redacted]
4. There were no Soviets employed at the mine; however, some Soviets visited the
 25X1 mine every 10 or 15 days. [redacted] the Soviets live at the
 25X1 "Borieva" Mine area.
5. At the 3 Uchastuk there are normally 14 or 15 skilled miners and four or five
 25X1 experienced men who do the shoring work in every shift. [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted]
- 25X1 [redacted] The number
 of common laborers working underground varies according to the work being done
 (sic).
6. There are about 200 Trudovaks assigned to the 3 Uchastuk. They work mainly on
 the surface.
7. There are about 200 civilian laborers at the 3 Uchastuk, most of whom work under-
 ground. About 10 percent of the laborers are professional miners, the remaining
 90 percent work at the mine because they cannot find work elsewhere.
8. There are no female laborers at the mine. The average age of the laborers is
 between 30 and 40 years.
- Working and Living Conditions at the 3 Uchastuk
9. There are three shifts, from 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.,
 and from 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. Six hours of work on the third shift is equated
 with eight hours on the other shifts. The mine is in operation seven days a week,
 but laborers work only a 6-day week.
10. The workers are divided into nine salary categories. [redacted]
 [redacted] as follows:
- 25X1 a. Fourth category - Workers operating mine cars on the surface, 18 leva a day;
- 25X1 b. Fifth category - Workers operating mine cars underground, 21 leva a day;
- c. Sixth category - Assistant miners, 28 leva a day;

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25X1

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- d. Seventh category - Skilled miners, 35 to 84 leva a day;
- e. Eighth category - Skilled miners, about 38 leva a day; and
- f. Ninth category - Skilled miners, 40 to 64 leva a day.

Categories 7 to 9 are separated according to the difficulty of the work.

- 11. Only about 15 laborers have their families at the mine. They pay 70 to 80 leva a month for one room, kitchen, bath, and a storeroom.
- 12. Single workers live in prefabricated wooden buildings, 10-15 men per room, for which they pay 38 leva a month.
- 13. It is difficult to procure foodstuffs locally because of the poverty of the area. There are special restaurants at the mine which are very expensive. A satisfactory meal costs at least 18 to 20 leva.
- 14. There are two stores at the mine area but no recreational facilities.
- 15. There are four or five buses running daily between Borieva and Madan. Bus tickets cost 1.80 leva from the 3 Uchastuk to Madan, a distance of four to five kilometers.
- 16. Workers are issued work clothes by the mine administration, but must pay about 60 percent of their cost. Miners' wages are cut, according to their category, if they don't fulfill their quotas, and for tax payments.
- 17. Because of low pay and heavy labor, informant estimates that 95 percent of the workers are dissatisfied.

Operation and Production of the 3 Uchastuk

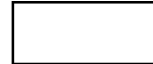
- 18. Work in the mine first began in 1952 and was started in the deepest horizontal gallery. Work is currently being done in the next to the deepest horizontal gallery, called "Razsechka", beginning from the outermost extremity and working toward the vertical shaft.
- 19. A shaft two meters by two meters by 15 meters is dug up from the main horizontal gallery and then a horizontal shaft is dug parallel to the main gallery. Sub-galleries are dug to the right and left of this gallery. At seven to eight meter intervals vertical channels are dug to the main gallery. The ore is poured through these channels into mine cars below.
- 20. The shovels used in the mine are sharpened every 20 to 30 days, and the pneumatic drills every three months. Star-shaped bits, used in soft earth, are sharpened every day, and hard steel bits, used for solid layers, are sharpened every three or four days. The bits, two meters long, can be used until they are 70 or 80 centimeters long, or for about four or five months. Replacement equipment is kept in depots at the mine.
- 21. The mined ore is moved in cars of 500 kilogram capacity on a narrow gauge rail line to the elevators. It is stored in a wooden bin called a "bunker", jutting over the Madan-Borieva road. From there it is taken by truck to Kurdzhali. The ore is not sorted or processed at the mine.

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22. On an average, 70 or 80 mine cars of ore are removed from the shaft every shift. A stockpile of 100 carloads is maintained in the shaft and 120-150 carloads in the storage bin at the top of the shaft.

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25X1

[Redacted] an experienced miner and his assistant should have a daily output of 13 cubic meters.

Security Measures at the 3 Uchast'uk

24. There are 14 or 15 Militiamen at the 3 Uchast'uk. They patrol the mine area and along the Madan-Borieva Reka road in pairs.
25. Outsiders are not permitted to approach the mine pit. Militiamen demand the "Otkrit List" (travel documents) of all travellers along the road and frequently from miners whom they don't know personally.
26. Miners who are local residents use only their Lichen Passport (Personal Pass) for identification. Miners from other areas replace their otkrit lists with a "permanent travel pass."
27. Workers at the mine can move about freely only in their own work area during their free time. However, miners may not enter the shaft with other than their own work group.

Sabotage at the 3 Uchast'uk

28. There are frequent acts of minor sabotage at the mine, such as cutting the compressed air hoses, pouring sand on the drill bits, and minor cave-ins.

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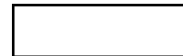
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APPENDIX

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LEGEND TO APPENDIX

1. Building eight meters square, contains the machinery which operates the two elevators in the vertical shaft.
2. Horizontal mine entrance.
3. "Bunker," a wooden bin for storing ore before loading it on trucks for Kürdzhali.
4. Madan-Borieva road.
5. About 500 prefabricated wooden buildings and brick houses used as dormitories for all kinds of workers at the mine.
6. Stream.
7. Unidentified in report. (Possibly a narrow gauge rail line ?)
8. Vertical shaft at the 3 Uchast'k. It is 6 x 4.5 meters in size and 250 meters deep.
9. The two elevators in the vertical shaft.
10. Horizontal shaft parallel to the main gallery. It has sub-galleries to the right and left.
11. A vertical shaft 2 x 2 x 15 meters, dug up from the main horizontal shaft.
- 12a. The deepest horizontal gallery.
- 12b. "Razsechka," the next to the deepest horizontal gallery.
- 12c. Horizontal gallery.
- 12d. Horizontal gallery.
- 12e. Horizontal gallery.

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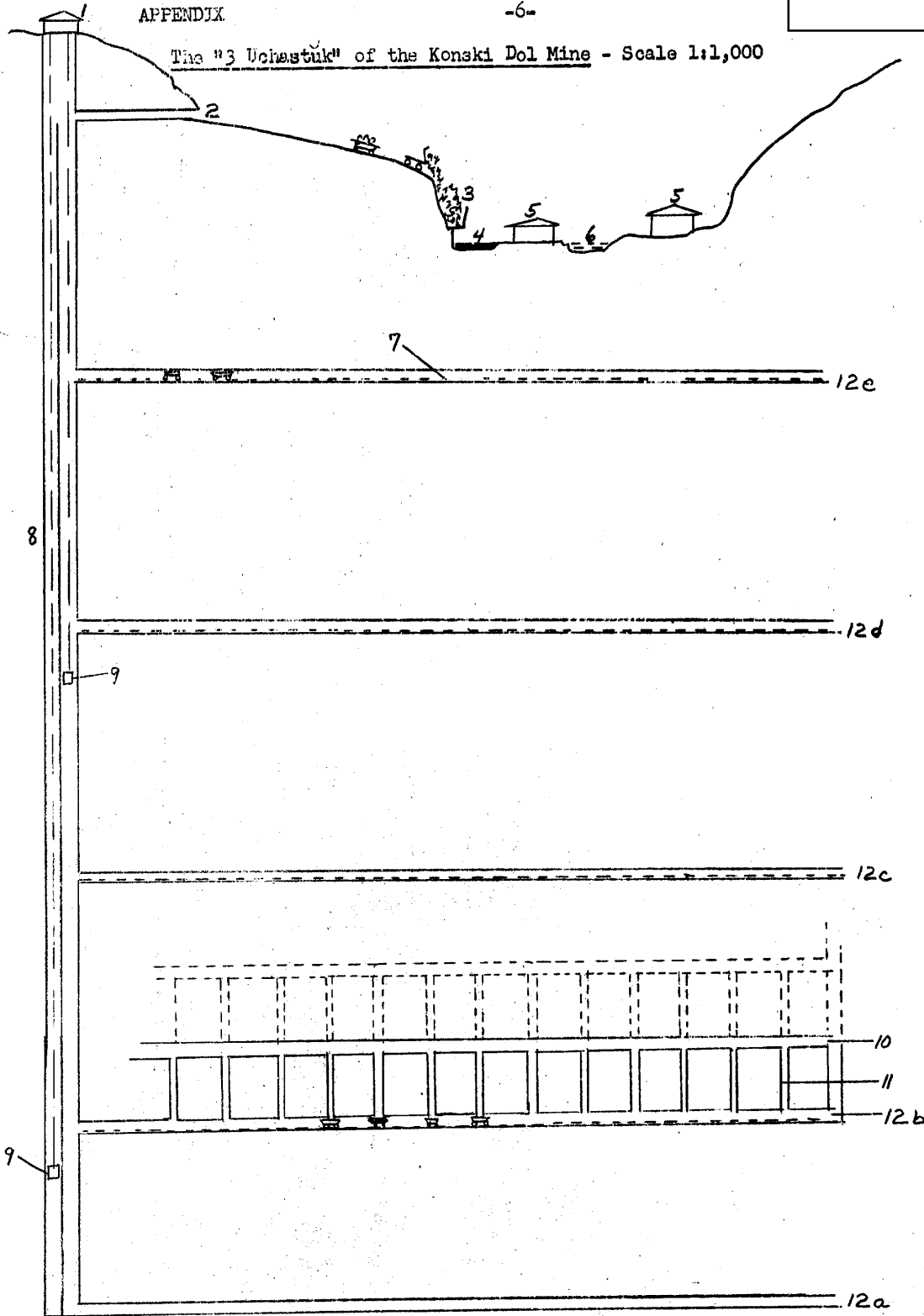
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APPENDIX

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The "3 Uchastuk" of the Konski Dol Mine - Scale 1:1,000



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